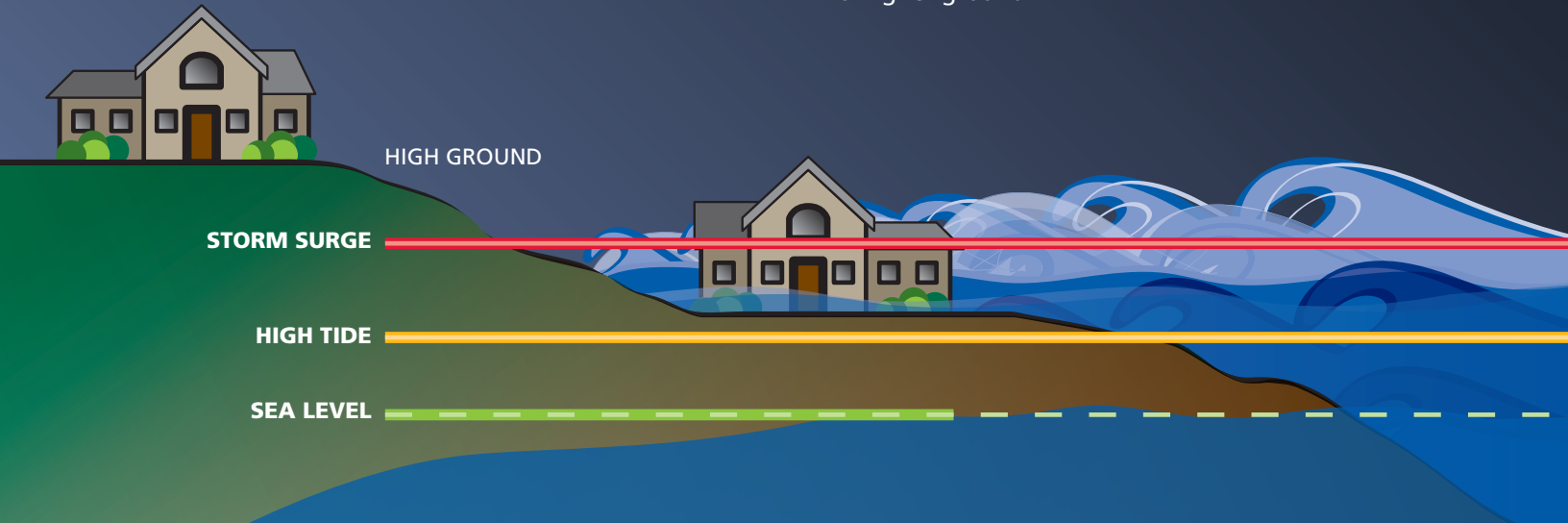


VIRGINIA HURRICANE EVACUATION GUIDE



STORM SURGE

Storm surge is water that is pushed toward the shore by storm winds, and it can increase the normal high tide by 15 feet or more. In addition, wind-driven waves on top of storm surge can cause severe damage in coastal areas. If an evacuation is ordered for your area, leave immediately and find higher ground.



Every resident in the Hampton Roads area needs to know the risk of storm-surge flooding. The threat of storm surge is the reason emergency officials would order an evacuation.

The force of a hurricane's high winds pushing ocean or bay waters toward shore causes storm surge. Each storm is different. The size, speed and strength of a storm and the angle it approaches the coast contribute to the damage storm surge can cause.

Local officials may issue evacuation orders for areas that could be affected or isolated by storm surge. If emergency officials order an evacuation for your area, leave immediately. Although officials may order people who live in areas vulnerable to storm surge to evacuate, most residents won't need to go far to be safe.

Stay with family or friends who live on higher ground in the area. If you don't have family or friends nearby, go to a hotel, motel or local emergency shelter.

General and local storm surge maps are available at <http://www.vaemergency.com/threats/hurricane/stormsurge.cfm>. Hampton Roads residents should contact their local emergency management office to learn how storm surge can affect their specific property.

Flood Insurance

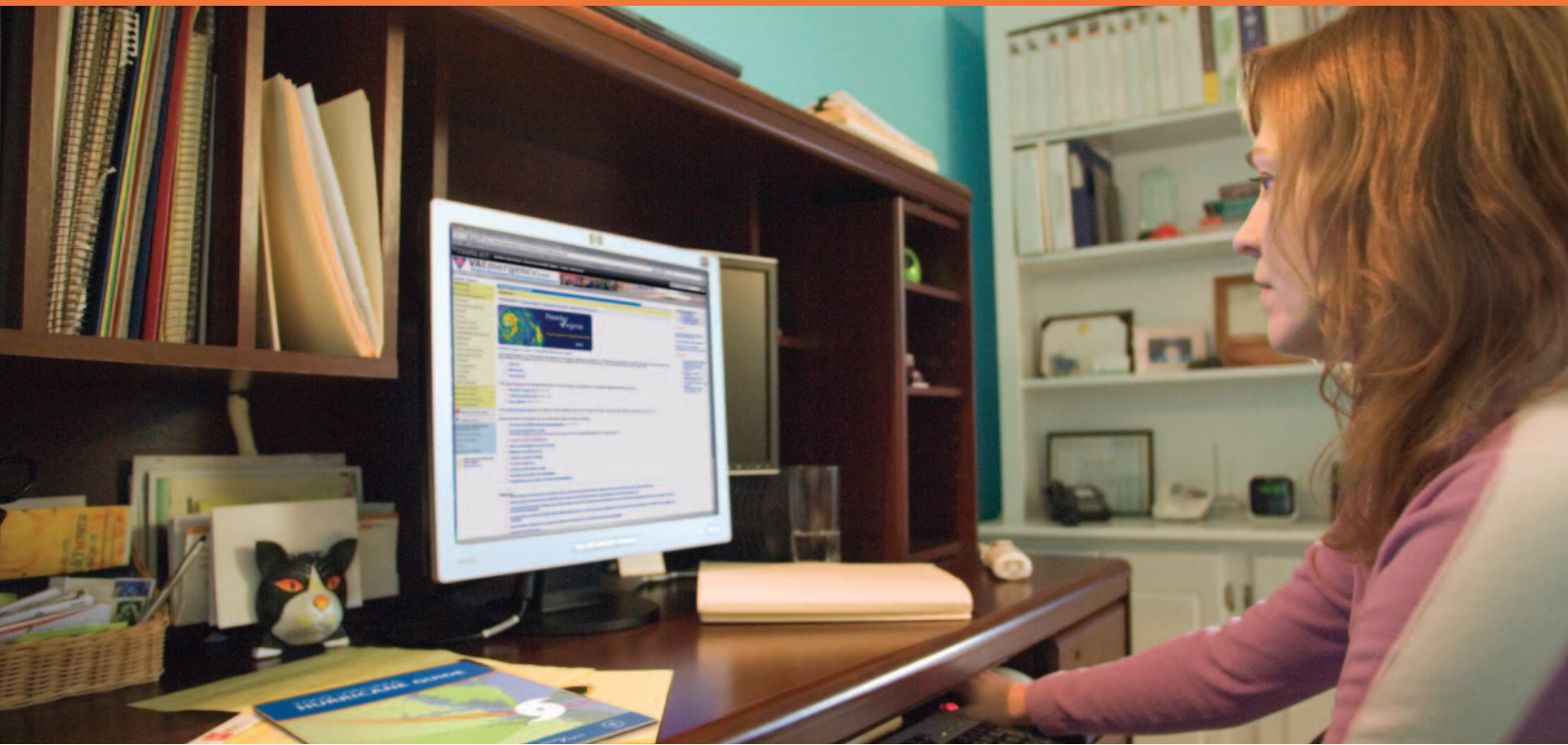
All Virginians should understand the importance of flood insurance. Just one inch of water in a home or office can cause about \$8,000 in cleanup costs, including replacing drywall, baseboards, floor coverings and furniture.

Talk to your insurance agent about purchasing structure and contents flood insurance for your property, and remember:

- There is usually a 30-day waiting period before coverage begins.
- Coverage is relatively inexpensive.
- Contents coverage helps renters and homeowners protect their personal belongings and business inventory.
- Structure and contents coverage helps home and business owners repair or rebuild homes and business facilities.
- You can receive flood insurance payments for flood-related losses even if no disaster is declared.
- Buying flood insurance is the best way to protect your home, your business and your family's financial security from the costs associated with flooding.

Information about the National Flood Insurance Program is available at www.FloodSmart.gov or by calling 1-800-427-2419.

Homeowners and renters insurance policies do not cover flood damage. The only way to protect your property from the impacts of flooding is to purchase flood insurance for your home's structure and contents.



An evacuation order does not mean that everyone needs to leave in order to stay safe. Local officials will announce the exact areas where people need to evacuate.

Evacuation orders keep residents safe from storm surge. They are intended for those living or working in low-lying areas that are vulnerable to storm surge or flooding.

Residents on higher ground may not need to evacuate to avoid storm surge. Find out if you live in an area that could flood because of storm surge. Maps are available at <http://www.vaemergency.com/threats/hurricane/stormsurge.cfm>.

If the storm-surge map for your area shows that you live in an area not at risk to coastal flooding, you may not need to evacuate.

Mobile homes and trailers are especially vulnerable to high winds. If you live in one of these structures, you should evacuate regardless of the threat of flooding.

Before, during and after a disaster, it is vital that you listen to your local news for the most up-to-date information for your area from emergency officials. The local news will broadcast critical instructions from local, state and federal government officials, such as:

- Evacuation orders for specific areas
- Details about evacuation routes
- Locations of evacuation shelters
- How to stay safe if not ordered to evacuate
- Where to find assistance
- Weather warnings and watches

Not everyone needs to evacuate. Find out if you live in an area that could flood due to storm surge at <http://www.vaemergency.com/threats/hurricane/stormsurge.cfm>.

Sometimes it is safer to stay at home. Listen for local instructions. If you are ordered to stay where you are, or to “shelter in place,” go inside and remain there until emergency officials announce it is safe for you to leave the shelter of your home.

- Use your family emergency plan.
- Locate your disaster supply kit. Make sure you have at least a three-day supply of water, food that will not spoil, a battery-powered radio, flashlights and extra batteries.
- Tune to a local radio or television station for additional information.
- Stay indoors and close all windows and doors.
- Bring pets indoors and make sure you have food and water for them.
- Plan to be without power, gas, telephone or cable service for an extended period of time.

WHAT ARE WATCHES AND WARNINGS?

Historically, Virginia residents have suffered significant damage and loss of life from tropical storms, tropical depressions and hurricanes that made landfall in other states. Flooding and wind impacts from these storms, depending on their size, speed and path, can extend many miles inland. *The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June 1 to Nov. 30. Tropical-storm activity in Virginia is typically between August and late September.*

All Virginians should understand the different types of watches and warnings:

TROPICAL STORM WATCH – A tropical storm watch is issued when tropical storm conditions, including winds from 39 to 73 mph, pose a possible threat to a specified area within 48 hours.

TROPICAL STORM WARNING – A tropical storm warning is issued when tropical storm conditions are expected to affect a specified area within 36 hours or less.

HURRICANE WATCH – A hurricane watch is issued for a specified area when hurricane conditions, including sustained winds of 74 mph or greater, are possible within 48 hours.

HURRICANE WARNING – A hurricane warning is issued for a specified area when hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. In coastal or near-coastal areas, a hurricane warning can remain in effect when dangerously high water, or a combination of dangerously high water and exceptionally high waves, continues, even though the winds may have subsided below hurricane intensity.

NOTE: The damage descriptions below pertain to the effects of wind only. Heavy rains can occur at any level. Heavy rains can cause river flooding and flash flooding anywhere in Virginia, regardless of storm intensity.

TROPICAL STORM

Winds: 39-73 mph

Wind Effects: Scattered trees down, scattered power outages, some roads blocked due to downed trees and power lines. *For example, neighborhoods could lose power for several days.*



SAFFIR/SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE

CATEGORY 1

Winds: 74-95 mph

Winds Effects: Damage to mobile and some frame-constructed homes. Numerous trees down and widespread power outages. Roads blocked due to downed trees and power lines. Loose outdoor items will become airborne projectiles. *For example, an area as large as a county could experience near total power loss.*



CATEGORY 2

Winds: 96-110 mph

Wind Effects: Severe damage to the majority of mobile and frame-constructed homes. Many trees down. Well-constructed homes will have damage to shingles, siding and gutters. Extensive damage to power lines and widespread power outages. Airborne debris could injure or kill. Damage could extend well inland. *For example, multiple localities could experience near total loss of power and water for several days or weeks.*



CATEGORY 3

Winds: 111-130 mph

Wind Effects: Nearly all mobile homes destroyed. Severe damage to most homes, including structural collapse. Airborne debris will injure or kill. Severe damage to most low-rise apartment buildings with partial roof and wall failure. Damage could extend well inland. *For example, large portions of the affected area could experience total power and water loss for more than a week.*



CATEGORY 4

Winds: 131- 155 mph

Wind Effects: Catastrophic damage to residential structures. Most of the affected area will be uninhabitable for weeks or longer. Nearly all industrial buildings and low-rise apartment buildings severely damaged or destroyed. Nearly all trees and power poles downed. Damage could extend well inland. *For example, large portions of the affected area will experience total power and water loss for weeks and possibly months.*



CATEGORY 5

Winds: 156+ mph

Wind Effects: Similar to Category 4.





With help from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and local governments, the Virginia Department of Transportation developed guidelines to safely close Hampton Roads area bridges, tunnels and ferry service operations when necessary. These guidelines allow time to evacuate and close these roadways before they become unsafe for travel. Wind speeds, storm surge, rain bands and other conditions at each bridge, tunnel and ferry are evaluated to determine if and when to stop operations.

- The Midtown Tunnel will close, and the Jamestown-Scotland Ferry will stop operations when an approaching tropical storm or hurricane produces sustained winds of 39 mph that are forecast to intensify.
- The Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel, James River Bridge, Downtown Tunnel, Coleman Bridge and High Rise Bridge will close when an approaching tropical storm or hurricane produces sustained winds of 45 mph that are forecast to intensify.
- **NOTE:** VDOT does not manage the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, which connects Virginia Beach to Virginia's Eastern Shore. The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel is not an evacuation route. For closure information, visit www.cbbt.com.

In the event of an ordered evacuation, bridges and tunnels are planned to close after motorists are off the road. However, local weather conditions could dictate earlier closure of bridges and tunnels. It is important that residents be ready to evacuate immediately if instructed to do so. Please tune to local television and radio broadcasts for the latest evacuation and facility closure information.

Real-time road closures and traffic conditions are also available by dialing 511 or visiting www.511Virginia.org.

IF YOU NEED TO EVACUATE



You can use several routes to evacuate from the Hampton Roads area. Although Interstate 64 is the only route officials currently plan to use with reversed lanes, it is not the only way out of the area. Evacuees should become familiar with all of the designated evacuation routes and plan to leave early to avoid significant traffic delays.

Know your risk. Only those residents at risk for storm surge flooding or who live in mobile homes may need to evacuate. Look at the storm surge map for your area (available at <http://www.vaemergency.com/threats/hurricane/stormsurge.cfm>) to assess your risk, and listen to your local news for instructions.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has designated the following roads as evacuation routes:

- U.S. Route 460 west
- U.S. Route 58 west
- State Route 10 west
- U.S. Route 17 north
- U.S. Route 60 west
- U.S. Route 13 north (north of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel)
The CBBT is not an evacuation route.
- Interstate 64

On the following pages, this guide will explain how an I-64 lane reversal would work, though it is important to remember there are other evacuation routes.

Information during an evacuation:

- Public radio station WCVE, along with other media outlets, will provide critical evacuation information to evacuees, including evacuation routes, traffic conditions and shelter locations.

The WCVE frequency depends on the evacuation route you use:

- o 88.9 FM on I-64, between Williamsburg and Fluvanna County
- o 89.1 FM on U.S. Route 17, on the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck
- o 90.1 FM on U.S. Route 58, between South Hill and South Boston
- The Richmond Metropolitan Convention and Visitor's Bureau will have a toll-free number motorists can call for assistance to find lodging in the Richmond area and beyond. That number is 800-370-9004 or 804-782-2777.
- Traffic information will be available by dialing 511.
- Shelter information will be available by dialing 211.

HAMPTON ROADS EVACUATION ROUTES

7

HURRICANE EVACUATION ROUTES REFERENCE GUIDE



WEST



WEST



SOUTH



NORTH



NORTH



WEST



WEST



WEST



WEST

1. All Eastern Shore residents should use Route 13 Northbound toward Salisbury, MD.

2. Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel is **NOT** a designated Hurricane Evacuation Route

3. Entrance to I-64 reversed lanes

4. Northbound lanes of Monitor Merrimac Bridge-Tunnel will close at Exit 8 (College Drive) during an I-64 lane reversal



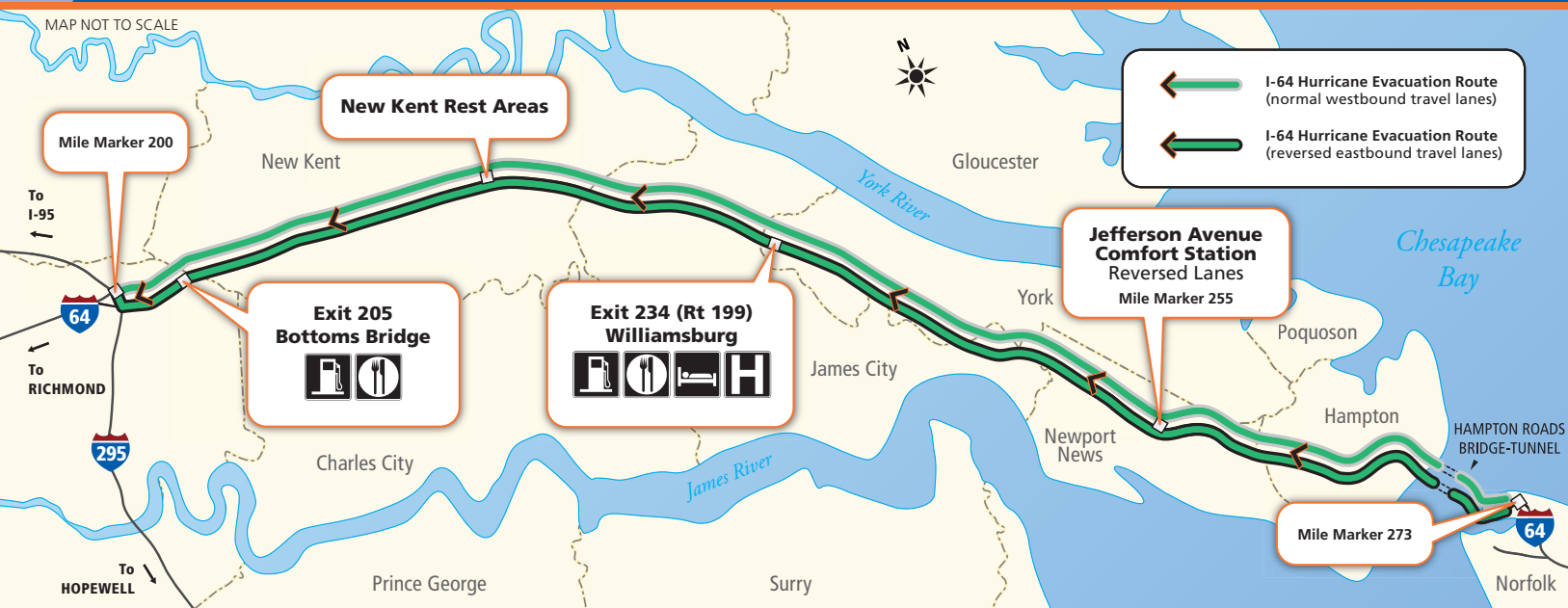
Direction of traffic



BE AWARE OF THESE SIGNS DURING AN EVACUATION

HURRICANE
EVACUATION
ROUTE

WHEN WOULD VIRGINIA REVERSE TRAFFIC ON I-64?



While cities and counties issue specific evacuation orders, only the governor can issue the order for a lane reversal on Interstate 64. The I-64 reversal plan begins in Norfolk, just east of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, at mile marker 273 and ends at the Interstate 295 interchange east of Richmond at mile marker 200. (In addition to hurricanes, I-64 might be reversed for other emergencies at the discretion of the governor.)

In the event of a lane reversal on I-64:

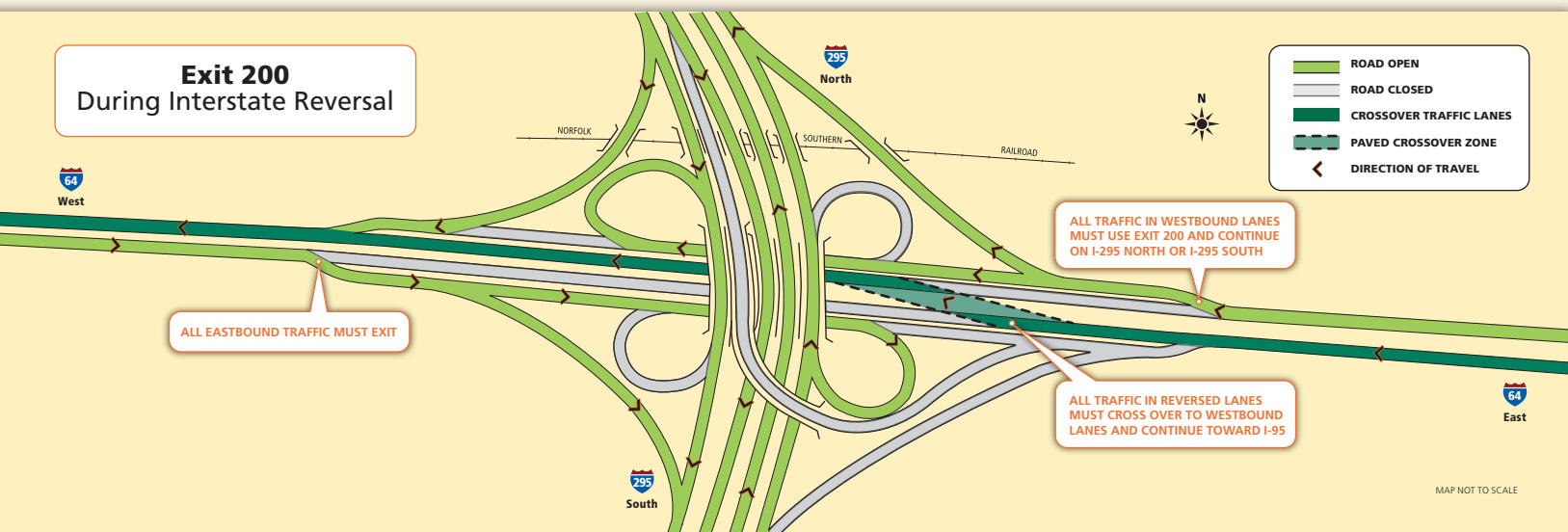
- No traffic will be allowed to travel east on the interstate between mile markers 273 and 200. All I-64 eastbound lanes and ramps between Norfolk and Richmond will be closed to eastbound traffic, from mile marker 273 to the I-295 interchange, just east of Richmond.
- The lane reversal begins in Norfolk, just east of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, at mile marker 273.
 - All traffic entering I-64 at 4th View Street (Exit 273) will travel in the westbound lanes.

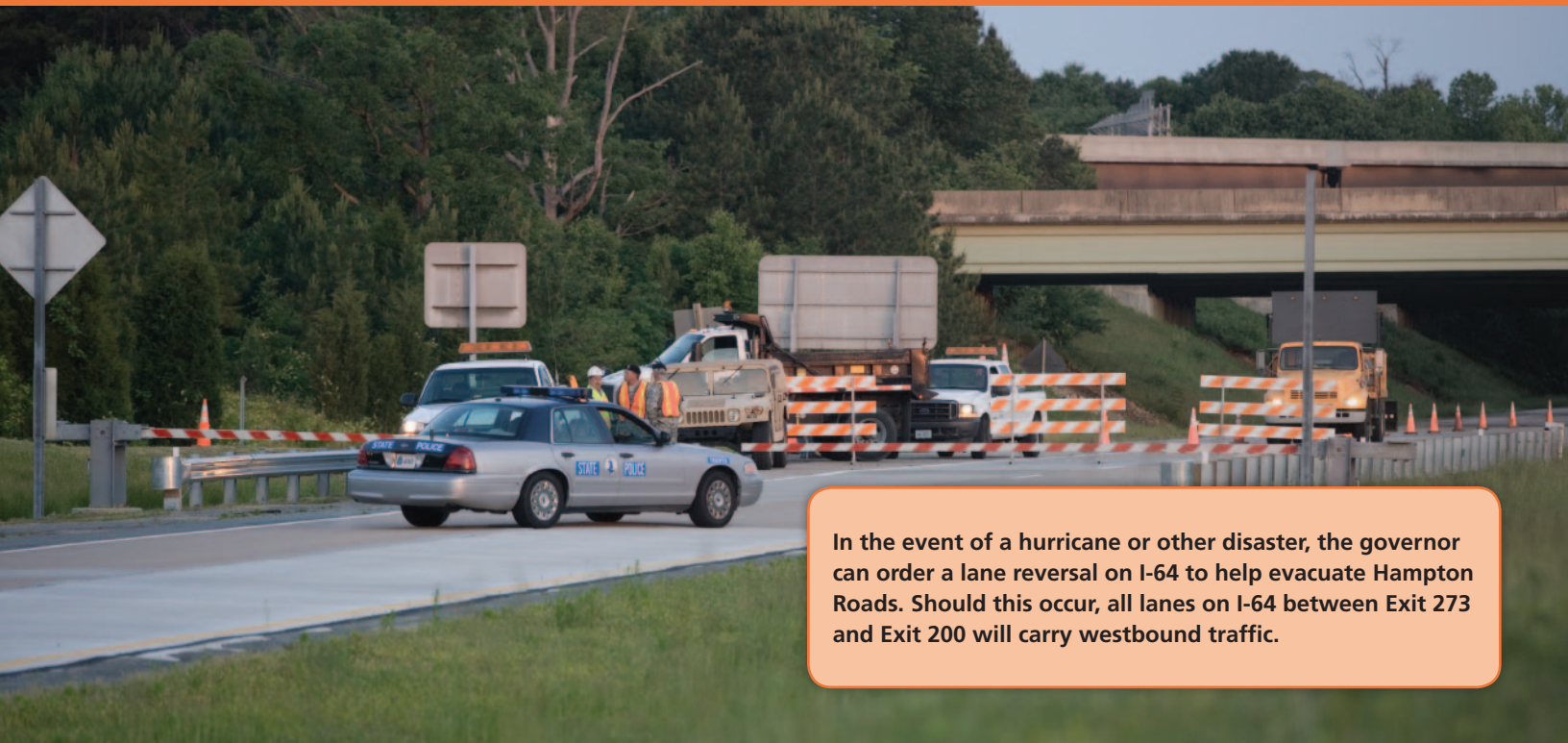
All traffic entering I-64 west of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel will travel in the westbound lanes.

- There will be only two possible exits from the reversed lanes between Norfolk and I-295:
 - Exit 234 in Williamsburg (Route 199) for gas, food, lodging and hospital
 - Exit 205 in Bottoms Bridge for gas and food

Without exiting, motorists on the reversed lanes can access a temporary comfort station on I-64 near Jefferson Avenue (mile marker 255) and the rest areas in New Kent County.

- Motorists exiting the reversed lanes at Exit 234 or Exit 205 cannot re-enter the reversed lanes. Once motorists exit the reversed lanes, they can re-enter I-64 using the regular I-64 westbound ramps.
- All motorists traveling in the westbound lanes of I-64 can exit and enter the interstate as they normally would, though some entrance and exit ramps could be closed for traffic control.





In the event of a hurricane or other disaster, the governor can order a lane reversal on I-64 to help evacuate Hampton Roads. Should this occur, all lanes on I-64 between Exit 273 and Exit 200 will carry westbound traffic.

Why did VDOT install the gates?

The gates along certain sections of I-64 will be lowered if the governor orders an I-64 lane reversal. The gates were installed as a safety measure to prevent motorists from entering reversed lanes.

Why are two gates at each end of the ramp?

Having gates at both ends of each ramp provides an additional measure of safety. Gates ensure that the ramps are completely inaccessible when closed, preventing motorists from driving along the shoulder to go around the gates.

If the gates are down, how do I exit the interstate?

Only two exits will be available to motorists traveling on the reversed lanes. These two exits provide motorists an opportunity

to seek gas, food, lodging and medical care before they reach the Interstate 295 interchange east of Richmond:

- **Exit 234** in Williamsburg (where services include gas, food, lodging and a hospital)
- **Exit 205** at Bottoms Bridge (where services include gas and food)

Motorists exiting the reversed lanes cannot re-enter the reversed lanes. Once a motorist exits the reversed lanes, they can re-enter I-64 using the regular I-64 westbound ramps.

A temporary comfort station will be located on I-64 at Jefferson Avenue (mile marker 255) to provide restrooms and water. Motorists cannot exit I-64 at Jefferson Avenue. The New Kent County rest areas will be open.

Who will monitor the exits and roadway during the evacuation?

VDOT, Virginia State Police and Virginia Army National Guard personnel will be on duty at each ramp, the Jefferson Avenue comfort station and the two rest areas on I-64 in New Kent County. VDOT Safety Service Patrol will assist motorists when possible.

What happens at the I-295 interchange?

- The I-64 lane reversal ends at the I-295 interchange east of Richmond.
- Motorists on I-64 westbound lanes must take Exit 200 and travel on I-295 north toward Fredericksburg and Northern Virginia or I-295 south toward Petersburg.
- Motorists on I-64 reversed lanes (normally eastbound) will cross over to I-64 west lanes and continue west toward the I-95 interchange. (See Exit 200 illustration.)

During a lane reversal of I-64, emergency plans call for:

- VDOT Safety Service Patrols on I-64 to provide basic motorist assistance on the road or at the rest areas and comfort station
- Tow trucks on standby along I-64 to move disabled vehicles to the grassy shoulder area to keep travel lanes open
- Vans on standby to take stranded motorists to the closest available shelter
- Drinking water, restrooms and emergency information at the New Kent County rest areas, at the Jefferson Avenue comfort station on I-64 (mile marker 255) and at the Suffolk weigh station on U.S. Route 58



If emergency officials order an evacuation of your area, you must be ready to leave immediately. Decide **now** where you will go, what you will need to take with you and what route you will take.

If you are at risk for storm surge or live in a mobile home and need to evacuate, remember these tips:

1. Leave early. An evacuation will increase traffic on evacuation routes, and your trip will take longer than usual. Be prepared for delays. The sooner you leave, the sooner you will get to your destination and out of harm's way. You will also spend less time in traffic.

2. Consider local options.

- o If you have nearby family or friends who live outside of storm surge areas, ask if you could stay with them.
- o If you can stay in a hotel or motel outside of storm surge areas, then there may not be a need to travel long distances. As a storm approaches, rooms may fill up fast, so make plans early.
- o If you must stay in a public shelter, shelters on higher ground within the area may be open.

3. Prepare your home. Turn off electrical appliances and unplug what you can. Shut off water and gas if emergency officials instruct you to do so. (You will need a professional to turn water and gas back on.) Secure outdoor furniture or anything on your property that could become airborne during high winds.

4. Listen for local, up-to-date information. Emergency officials will provide information about open shelters through local media. Shelters can fill quickly, and shelter information may change frequently. Shelter information will be available by dialing 211.

5. Plan now for your pets. Some emergency shelters, hotels and motels will only accept service animals. Talk to your veterinarian or local humane society in advance about an emergency plan for your pets, or plan to stay with family or friends or at a pet-friendly hotel. Have copies of your pets' immunization records ready to go.

Whether your plan is to go to a family or friend's home, to a hotel or to a shelter, take your disaster supply kit with you. Gather essential supplies to support your family for at least three days, including:

- A three-day supply of special items for elderly, disabled or infant members of your household
- Copies of important documents, such as insurance policies and birth certificates that will help you claim assistance after the disaster
- If you must stay at a shelter, bring blankets, pillows, linens and something to sleep on, such as a cot, air mattress or cushion

For more information about how to prepare your family for a disaster, visit www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

Public shelters are a last resort. Public shelters provide basic necessities such as food, water and a small amount of space for your family to stay. Most shelters do not provide items such as cots, bedding or items for infants or those who have special medical needs. Relief organizations may provide some of these items after the storm has passed, but you should be prepared to provide these supplies for your family until help arrives. Take your emergency supply kit.

Below is a list of items to collect before a storm threat. Try to have enough supplies to last at least three days, but keep in mind that if you need to evacuate for a Category 3, 4 or 5 hurricane, you may not be able to return home for more than a week.

It is a good idea for each person to have their supplies in an easy-to-carry bag, such as a backpack or gym bag.

Visit www.ReadyVirginia.gov for more information about creating an emergency supply kit.

Virginia has enacted a Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday to help encourage residents to assemble their emergency supplies. It is held annually during the last week in May.

Put these essentials in your kit:

- ☐ Food that won't spoil, such as canned goods and packaged foods
- ☐ Water, one gallon per person per day
- ☐ A working battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- ☐ A written family emergency plan

Once you have the essentials, you should add:

- ☐ Flashlights and extra batteries
- ☐ First-aid kit and extra contact lenses or glasses
- ☐ A written list of your prescriptions, allergies and prescribing doctor(s) and at least a week's supply of medications
- ☐ Sanitation supplies: toilet paper, soap, plastic garbage bags and personal hygiene items
- ☐ Change of clothing, sturdy shoes
- ☐ Blanket or sleeping bag, pillows, sheets
- ☐ Manual can opener for food (*if kit contains canned food*)
- ☐ Whistle to signal for help
- ☐ Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter where you are
- ☐ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ☐ Local maps
- ☐ Copies of important family documents, such as insurance policies, identification and bank account records, in a waterproof, portable container
- ☐ Cash in small denominations, traveler's checks and change
- ☐ Emergency reference material, such as a first-aid book
- ☐ Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper (*when diluted in water, bleach can be used to kill germs*)

- ☐ Fire extinguisher
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Matches in a waterproof container
- ☐ Paper cups, plates and plastic knives, forks and spoons, paper towels
- ☐ Paper and pencil
- ☐ Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children
- ☐ Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members

Don't forget to gather supplies for your pet:

- ☐ Medications, immunization records and a first-aid kit
- ☐ Sturdy leashes, muzzles, harnesses
- ☐ Carriers or cages to transport pets safely. Carriers should be large enough for your pet to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down. Include blankets or towels for bedding and warmth.
- ☐ Current photos of your pets in case they get lost
- ☐ Food, drinking water, bowls, cat litter/pan and can opener
- ☐ Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems and the name and number of your veterinarian
- ☐ Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Traditional, non-cordless telephones, also known as landlines, don't require electricity to operate. Keep one available in your home for use during power outages.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The best source of emergency preparedness information for your community is your local emergency manager. Links to local emergency management office websites are available at <http://www.vaemergency.com/links/govt/index.cfm#local>.

Virginia Department of Transportation

www.VirginiaDOT.org/hurricanes

1-800-367-7623

Traffic Info

Dial 511

www.511Virginia.org

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

www.vaemergency.com

toll-free line 1-866-782-3470

American Red Cross

1-800-733-2767

www.redcross.org

Federal Emergency Management Agency

www.fema.gov

FEMA Hurricane Hazards Fact Sheet

www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm

FEMA Kids Page

www.fema.gov/kids

FEMA National Flood Insurance Program

1-888-CALL-FLOOD

1-800-638-6620

www.floodsmart.gov

Tips for preparing your family, business and animals for an emergency

www.ReadyVirginia.gov

YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergency contact

Phone

Cell

Neighborhood meeting place

Phone

Cell

Emergency contact

Phone

Cell

Out-of-town meeting place

Phone

Cell



Ready Virginia is a statewide public education effort to prepare Virginians for all hazards. State agencies and nonprofit organizations active in disaster preparedness have collaborated to create educational materials and an interactive website to teach residents and businesses the basic steps toward preparedness:

Get a kit • Make a plan • Stay informed

www.ReadyVirginia.gov